

UP-TO-DATE
AND NEWSYR. Edgren's
COLUMNWolgast's Coming Battle With
Cross Will Decide If He's a
Pugilistically Dead One.

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AD WOLGAST arrived in New York without creating the old time flurry. Ad is to fight Leach Cross here on Dec. 17.

When Wolgast was champion of the world he couldn't move without attracting a crowd. To-day it's all different. Yet when the Michigan Bearcat fights he'll draw nearly as well as when he held the title.

A real fighter never loses his drawing power while he keeps a trace of his fighting form. And Wolgast was a real fighter. He is still, according to reports from the West, where he has been "cleaning up" in almost his championship manner.

Wolgast, when working up to the championship, was one of the greatest little fighters in the country. He didn't know how to take a step backward after the first bell and run. He was a plunger, tearing, snorting terror. Always well under the lightweight limit, he didn't care what the other fellow weighed. To-day Wolgast can fight at 150 pounds and have his full strength. It seems he hasn't lost much of his fighting ability—and he certainly hasn't lost any of the spirit that went with it.

Ad's one misfortune was a habit of breaking bones in his fights. He's broken his arm so many times that he's almost lost count. But he says that to-day the breaks give him no trouble, and that the broken bones have actually made him stronger.

The ex-champion is willing to fight any lightweight, but prefers Freddy Welsh. He is sure that he can beat Welsh and he offers to put up \$15,000 of his own money to guarantee Welsh's end of the purse, providing Welsh will meet him on the flat. Nelson championship route—forty-five rounds. It was in a forty-five round battle that Ad won the title from Nelson, beating the great Dane into a state of submission in forty rounds.

There's a curious thing about Wolgast's championship. While he has knocked out a lot of fighters in his time, he won and lost the title without a knockout. He battered Nelson until the champion was helpless in the middle of the ring, with his arms down, when the referee stepped in to save Nelson from the finish that seemed sure. But the referee was more. He lost the title to Willie Ritchie on a foul in sixteen rounds.

Wolgast thinks he could whip Welsh in a long fight, but at the same time he could catch the English champion in twenty rounds. He just wants to gather in that title again—and then fight for the money. But the money he's still king of the lightweights. Wolgast can't give up boxing. He has intended to retire—he has announced his retirement—many times. He has all the money he'll ever want. He can live on his farm, travel or do as he pleases, for he's been a clever investor and has made a lot of money with his ring earnings. But the money of the squared circle is strong upon him. Like Bat Nelson and many others who were once great, he refuses to admit that he's to be numbered among the pugilistically dead ones. And perhaps he isn't. His battle with Leach Cross will be a pretty good test. Leach is going along at a pace that makes him a dangerous opponent for any of them, champions or near-champs.

FRIDAY night will see one of the most interesting bouts of the year, but unfortunately it will be held far from New York. Young Ahearn is to have his chance against Mike Gibbons in Mike's own town. The two are to split \$10,000, which makes the bout a little more interesting.

Gibbons knocked Young Ahearn out once. But that was years ago when Ahearn was only a lightweight. He's grown tall and heavy since then. He's a well-known middleweight, a great puncher and an old timer for cleverness. There's something about Ahearn that reminds one of the great Kid McCoy. Not that he's the same, but he's equal yet—but that his action, his hitting, even his pliant anger, is like that of McCoy. Ahearn has been fighting heavyweights. After beating Roer Rodol he challenged many of the heavies, including Gunboat Smith, with whom he once matched in England. None of them cared to take him on, except Dillon. It's said he had all the best of the Dillon bout. And Jack is one of the best of the heavyweights.

Mike Gibbons is a wonderful fighter. But if any one is to have a chance to beat him, it's Ahearn. A hard, clean, fast fighter, with remarkably swift footwork, he's likely to get through even the redoubtable Mike's guard. At any rate, he will find him very unlike the Ahearn he once knocked out.

TOURNEY IN HANDBALL
DOUBLES STARTS DEC. 10.

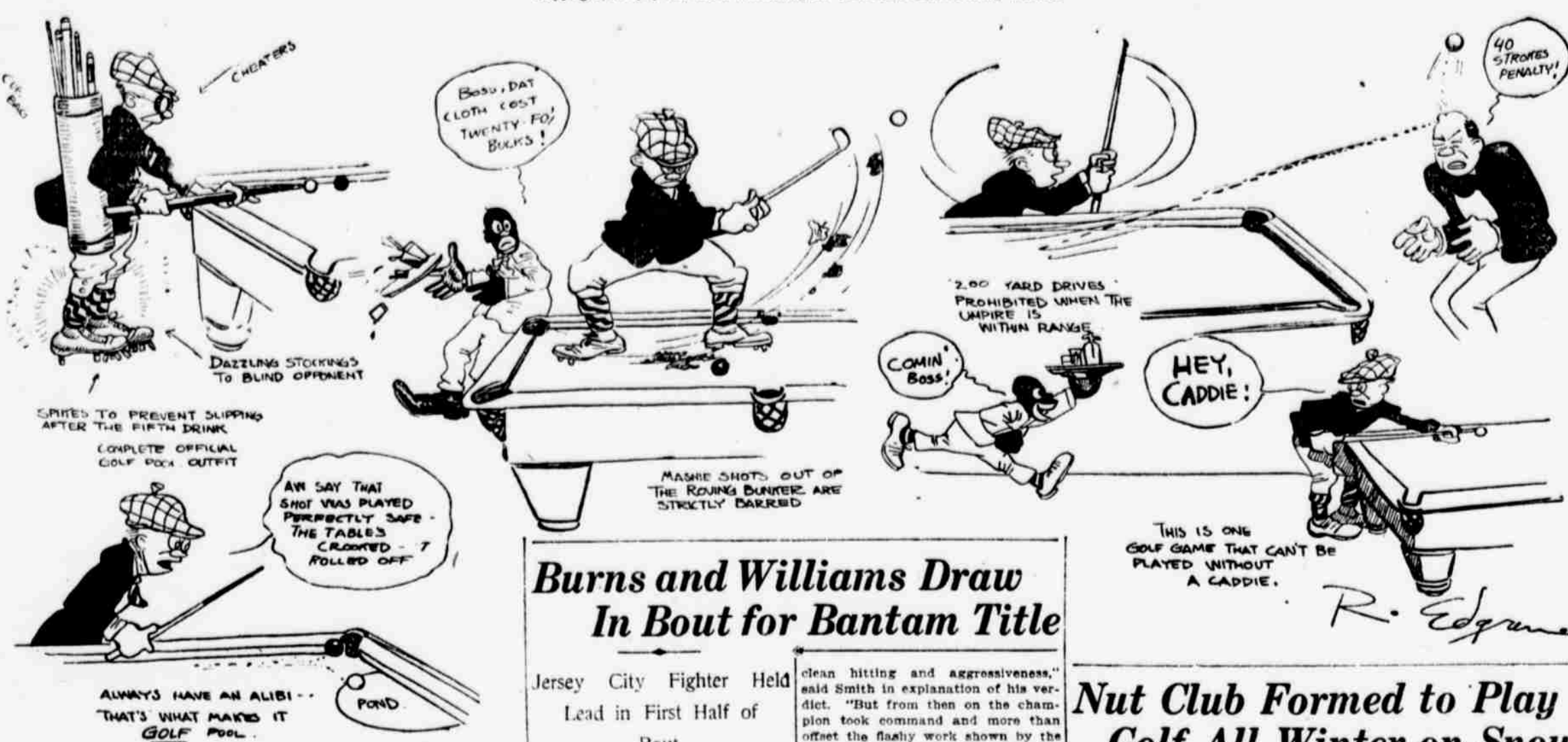
The doubles of the open handicap handball tournament at the Van-Kelton stadium, Fifty-seventh street and Eighth Avenue, will be played starting Dec. 10. The entries close on Dec. 10. Up to date there are about fifty entries. The tournament will be played in and around New York. The manager is desirous of having fifty-four entries, or thirty-two teams. The handball trophies will go to the winners.

There will be an exhibition match each day between Nov. 21, at 3 P. M. between Willie O'Hare (champion professional handball player of the world) and different professionals from the immediate Y. M. C. A. around New York.

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK

HOW TO PLAY GOLF POOL

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Burns and Williams Draw
In Bout for Bantam TitleJersey City Fighter Held
Lead in First Half of
Bout.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 7.—Frankie Burns of Jersey City was given a draw in his twenty-round fight here with Kid Williams last night by Referee Smith. The large crowd, which was distinctly pro-Burns, thought Williams was the winner after the eighth round.

"For the first ten rounds I thought Burns had a fairly good lead on the

clean hitting and aggressiveness," said Smith in explanation of his verdict. "But from then on the champion took command and more than offset the flashy work shown by the Jerseyman. It was in the twelfth and thirteenth rounds that Williams's body punches began to tell severely on Burns, and after that his hitting had absolutely no force."

Burns's range and his cleverness kept the champion at a distance in the early part of the fray, but after the eighth the pace told on the taller fighter and the strength of the champion began to tell. It was a hard fight all the way, but without a knockdown.

Fistic News and Gossip

By John Pollock

Frank Moran has, according to Billy Gibson, manager of Jim Coffey, just one more in which to take or leave a match with Jim Coffey. Up to date, Moran has demanded a bank president's salary to meet Coffey again in a ten-round bout. Gibson has offered Moran a \$7,000 guarantee, but Moran rejects this disinclination, saying he wants at least \$12,000. If by Wednesday the Pittsburgher still insists on \$12,000, he will be passed up by Gibson and negotiations opened looking toward a match with Fred Fulton, the Western giant. Fulton seems to have displaced Moran in the proposed bout with Willard at New Orleans, and now has a chance of "stepping in" here at the expense of the Pittsburgher. It is just possible that Moran will see the error of his ways and sign up with Coffey. If he does, the bout will be staged at the Garden.

The old Manhattan A. C. at One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street and Eighth Avenue is to be reopened soon by the McMahon brothers. The business has been closed since the McMahon would like to get Coffey for their opening show against Battling Lemons, but it seems that Gibson has eye only for Moran. Coffey will be an opponent for the Irish giant, who now is at Coney Lake waiting for something like a fight to turn up.

Ad Wolgast's bout with Packer Hommer is off; but so far nothing has happened to cancel his match with Leach Cross. This is scheduled for the Harlem Sporting Club on Dec. 17. The same evening, at the same club, Joe Welling, Wolgast's stable mate, is booked to go against Young Brown. Welling is regarded as a "comer" among the lightweights. In his only appearance here against that small war horse, Johnny Martin, he showed a lot of "class."

The Philadelphia heavyweight Mickey Trainor has been matched up with Kid Queens of Long Island City for the main event at the show of the Queensboro A. C. on Saturday night. The Queensboro A. C. will run a show on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at which some local boxers will appear. There will be no boxing in by Hebrews, Armenians, Swedes and the like who have assumed odd-fashionsed names. Only genuine sons of this Era will be allowed.

Willie Reilly, who has handled such boxers as young Reilly, Dick Peters and Johnny Schumacher, A. C. of Long Island.

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Nut Club Formed to Play
Golf All Winter on Snow
At Van Cortlandt ParkLocal Enthusiasts Tried Out Novel Scheme Few Days Ago,
Using Red Ball, and Now They Are Going to Hold Tourney
When Snow Gets Deep Enough.

By Bozeman Bulger.

MIND you, we do not say it, but the thought is suggested somehow that the man who sent that pair of squirrels on board the Ford Peace Skiff should have saved them for the Nineteenth Hole at the Van Cortlandt golf links. Yes, and the box of raisins might have been sent along too, to go with the nuts.

A golf club has been formed up there to play on the snow all winter, a red ball being used instead of a white one.

As proof that the suggestion of the squirrels is not ours, the said organization, realizing its own inability to tear away from a set of clubs and a score card, regardless of weather, has whimsically named itself the Winter Nut Club.

The membership so far is composed of Charles J. Gebest, J. E. Manly, T. L. Kruse, M. S. Barnes, Mr. Halston, Leo Zimmerman and F. H. Weldon. Moreover, applications are coming in daily, and they hope to have enough for a tournament the first day the snow gets deep enough for golf.

"They've been kidding us a lot about sticking to the old game all winter," said Mr. Gebest yesterday. "But we tried the red ball out the other day when there was a light snowfall and it was the most invigorating sport we've had all season."

10,000 GOLF BALLS LOST THIS YEAR.

Quite a crowd gathered around to see the snow golfers start, but when the spectators came to a choice of walking to the second tee or the warming influence of the club house, the latter got the decision. The red ball on the snow proved much easier to find after a long drive than the usual white ball on the green. Incidentally, the boy in charge of the railroad flag station at the Eighth green and who makes a business of recovering lost balls and selling them, declares that more than 10,000 golf balls were lost on the Van Cortlandt links during the season which has just closed to the average player.

The only difficulty in the way of playing a good game on the snow is the absence of smooth greens. The winter golfer is not permitted to use the regular greens and must content

himself with a cleared off spot some fifty or sixty feet away. The putting is therefore rather nerve racking, and nothing like that to be encountered later on. Mr. Gebest succeeded in making the course in 98, and Mr. Zimmerman did it in 88.

"There is another real pleasure to snow golf that would not occur to one accustomed to playing in warm weather," says Mr. Zimmerman. "We never have to wait on those tiresome foursmen that are always in the way when a two some is getting under way. In fact, we have the course almost to ourselves and it is like playing on private links."

Another immense advantage in the snow game, we are reminded, is that a player never loses any time looking for a ball that is driven out of bounds and into the edge of woods skirting the first six holes.

"Once it goes in there," explains Mr. Halston, "we simply know there's no use in looking for it. It is buried until next spring and the same is never delayed. We call it a stroke and go right on."

"You must use a lot of balls," I suggested.

MANY BALLS ARE LOST PLAYING ELEVENTH GREEN.

"Sure we do, in a way," he said. "But you see, we'll get even when the lake freezes up at the eleventh hole by not losing any there. If the summer there are more balls lost in that doggone lake in one week than the winter players will lose all winter in the woods."

Any one who has played that eleven hole at Van Cortlandt will appreciate the soundness of this observation.

A rule of interest in the snow golf is that a player may sole his club at all times, as there are no such things as sandpits. Besides, they use the regular winter rule of teeing up at any time whether driving from the tee or the "rough."

"I know that everybody will laugh in the snow," said Mr. Gebest, "but that won't cease us. Anybody who plays golf long enough is a 'nut' anyway, and I can't see that the 'nut' brand is any worse than that fellow who comes into the club house in the summer and holds up all conversation until he tells what a wonderful drive he made over the hill at the fourteenth hole."

"Important—Read this carefully before signing. An entry fee of 50 cents for each event will be charged. This must be paid on the night of the games at the competition. Entrance qualification is open to all who are registered in the Madison Square Garden, Jan. 21. This notice, displayed in large type, appears on the back of every blank.

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SPRINTING BIKERS
LEAVE OLD MARK
BEHIND AT GARDEN39th Hour of Six-Day Race
Sees Thirteen Teams 11
Miles Ahead of Record.

The seventeen pairs of six-day bike riders in the Garden race late this afternoon continued to increase their lead over the world's record. At the thirty-ninth hour the thirteen teams tied for the lead were over eleven miles ahead of the best previous mark ever made in a week's contest.

About the same time the band started playing the riders increased their pace. Suter, Walthour, Thomas and Hill took turns setting pace. The fast work really amounted to a series of sprints which quickly left the world's record far behind. The fast afternoon riding followed a long period of slow work in the morning, when the bikers cut down their speed in order to catch up with their rest schedule. Mile after mile the field bled away around the track.

Jimmy Moran and Martin ("Grassy") Ryan broke the monotony with an impromptu cabaret, which consisted mostly of hurling waves of wet paper at snoring spectators in the boxes. The slow riding at one time carried the bunch behind the world's record. Shortly after midday Oscar Egg and several of the other foreign stars tired of the slow work and began a number of sprints which started the fast afternoon performance.

Traveling at a 22-mile an hour clip the riders quickly recovered all that was lost in the morning and soon passed the best previous record for the distance. At the thirty-ninth hour thirteen teams were tied for the lead and four pairs (Suter and Madonia, Sullivan and Anderson, Wohlrab and Kopsky, End-Huesel and Vandertuyt) were from 1 to 4 laps behind the leaders the result of a bad midnight accident.

Toward evening members of the lapped teams made frantic efforts to pull up even. But the riders at the head of the string at each one of these attempts would ride across the track, forming a "pocket" which was just as effective as a Chinese wall in keeping the tail-enders in their positions. While the "pocket" couldn't gain their fast riding caused a great deal of encouragement from a large crowd on hand.

AMATEUR HOCKEY SEASON
OPENS IN HOCKEY JAN. 6.

The Amateur Hockey League will open its season Jan. 6, when the Crescent A. C. travels to Boston to play the Harvard club. The schedule adopted last night includes twelve games, twelve of which will be played in Boston.

The schedule:

Jan. 6, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Jan. 13, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Jan. 20, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Jan. 27, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Feb. 3, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Feb. 10, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Feb. 17, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Feb. 24, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Mar. 2, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Mar. 9, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Mar. 16, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston; Mar. 23, Crescent A. C. vs. Harvard Club, at Boston.

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